

*helice* attracted much attention because its numbers were part of an unwonted general abundance, and because of its resemblance to the true Pale Clouded Yellows.

On the Continent *C. crocea* was seen on the cliffs of north Brittany on 30 July, and was reported to be unusually common in the Cevennes throughout August; but otherwise we have as yet no information about its movements. The June arrivals in England came in from the south or south east, with fairly good numbers of *V. atalanta* and *C. cardui*, and a few of at least ten species of the migratory moths (see Annexe II). They probably all came across France from the Mediterranean area. The much larger invasions by *C. crocea* in late July and early August were more westerly in their arrival points, and were accompanied by the first wave of Vestal moths (*R. sacraria*) as well as by some of the very long distance migrants. Both their direction and their composition suggest that they originated mainly in north Africa, whence migration may have been induced by prolonged and widespread droughts. The last large influx of *C. crocea* in late September came in with what appears to have been a huge invasion of *R. sacraria*. It is noteworthy that this species shared with *C. crocea* the distinction of having its best year in Britain since 1949 or 1947.

We must end with some words of warning. The coverage of this survey is uneven and far from complete, despite the help from so many recorders. In particular, although the general pattern of distribution shown may be broadly correct, we have almost no information about *C. crocea* in West Cornwall (including the Isles of Scilly) before August, although these are usually critical places for the arrival of immigrants. The west coast of Wales and parts of East Anglia, as well as many inland counties, are very thinly covered; and we have not felt able to appraise events in Ireland. Further records and comments which fill these gaps, and especially any which clearly indicate the extent of local breeding, will be very welcome.

---

THE FEEDING HABITS OF TWO SPECIES OF BURYING BEETLES: NECROPHORUS VESPILLOIDES HERBST AND N. HUMATOR GOEZE. — During an extensive survey of local woodland for the Shropshire Biological Records Centre, (Ludlow Museum), these two burying beetles were feeding in bait traps originally set up for Diptera.

The bait traps were made from a soft plastic drinks bottle with a 3" x 3" opening at the side, and a removable 3" x 1" glass collecting tube fitted in the neck. The trap was suspended 16' and 2' from the trunk by a greased wire. The bait was well rotted tomato and as many as 10 beetles were found a week from 1 trap. The beetles were often found almost immersed in the putrefying liquid. — D. J. DENMAN, B.Sc., Dip. H.E. BIOL., F.R.E.S.